Student's Perspective on Te Arawai

Hello everyone! My name is Vidya, and I am a Year 8 student at Tawa Intermediate. Today I would like to tell you about one of my biggest achievements at school: completing the Te Arawai programme by earning my Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards. I am also proud to be one of the first two students to achieve the Gold Award, which has been an unforgettable experience and memory to me.

What is Te Arawai?

Te Arawai is a programme with three stages that relate to our school values which are Manaakitanga, Kotahitanga, Tupu, and Aumangea. There are three stages throughout Te Arawai; Bronze, Silver, and Gold. At each stage, students choose ten challenges from the stage they're working on and overall you would have completed 30 challenges across all three stages.

As you move through each stage, the challenges become more challenging, encouraging you to step outside your comfort zone and try new things. Once you complete all of your challenges and have them signed off, you are awarded your badge in front of the whole school. It is an amazing feeling to be recognised for all of your hard work and determination.

What do I and other students like about Te Arawai?

One thing that I, along with many other students, enjoy about Te Arawai is that it encourages us to push ourselves while still being fun and exciting. Every challenge is different, so you get to learn new skills, work with a variety of people, and discover strengths you may not have known you had.

Te Arawai has also helped us understand and demonstrate our school values every day. It has shown us what we are capable of when we work hard, keep trying, and support one another.

What milestones have I achieved during my Te Arawai journey?

Throughout my Te Arawai journey, I have achieved many milestones. Completing my Bronze Award gave me the confidence to continue. Earning my Silver Award challenged me to aim even higher and take on more difficult tasks. Finally, achieving my Gold Award was one of the proudest moments of my time at Tawa Intermediate.

Being one of the first two students to earn the Gold Award made the achievement even more special. It reminded me that with perseverance, determination, and a positive attitude, even the

biggest goals are possible. Looking back at everything I accomplished and the contributions I made to my school and community makes me feel incredibly proud.

Another milestone I have achieved was to inspire other students to give Te Arawai a go. Some people found it difficult at first, but they kept persevering and believed in themselves. Watching them grow in confidence and achieve their own goals has been one of the most rewarding parts of my journey.

How does Te Arawai help you and the people around you?

Te Arawai helps students develop confidence, courage, determination, resilience, leadership, and the ability to work with a wide range of people. These are valuable life skills that will continue to help us both at school and in the future.

It also has a positive impact on the people around us. Many of the challenges encourage us to give back to our community, support others, and build stronger relationships. Through Te Arawai, we learn that success is not only about achieving our own goals but also about making a positive difference for others.

Conclusion

Overall, Te Arawai has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time at Tawa Intermediate. It has helped me grow as a learner, a leader, and a member of my community. I would encourage every student to take on the Te Arawai journey because it is an experience that builds confidence, creates lasting memories, and teaches you that with hard work and perseverance, you can achieve more than you ever imagined.

Vidya

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